

I think the current amateur license structure of three levels, Technician, General and Extra class should be retained. I think the morse code requirement should be deleted entirely. Morse code has been replaced by computer based modes as an effective means of radio communication. A mastery of CW is not a reliable indicator of an applicants overall skill. Poor operating practices can be observed on the General and Extra class band segments. Retention of the CW requirement is an impediment to those applicants who in all other respects would become excellent Amateur operators. The current CW requirement has an inhibiting effect on Amateur radios contribution to Homeland Defense.

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